

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the NASA Glenn Research Center's team on their significant contributions to the field of aeronautics and to continuing to work for maintaining NASA's global leadership in aeronautics.

IN HONOR OF ANDERSON HOMES

**HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE**

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 12, 2008*

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Steve Anderson and the dedicated employees of Anderson Homes, an independent homebuilder based in Middletown, Delaware. This week Anderson Homes will do what many consider impossible. Together, with ABC's Extreme Makeover: Home Edition design team and hundreds of local sub-contractors and volunteers, they will build two new high quality homes for two Wilmington families in less than a week's time. Mr. Ty Pennington, the host of the show, informed the Latif family and their neighbor Rose Chatman of the wonderful news Tuesday morning in traditional fashion: yelling "Good Morning" via bullhorn.

Anderson Homes has agreed to tackle this unbelievable challenge of building two houses, while waiving all fees and donating all the materials. Anderson Homes was founded in Middletown, Delaware, in 2000 and has 45 full-time employees. In just 7 years, the company has built more than 1,000 quality homes. The company was named the "Fastest Growing Homebuilder in the Nation, 2003" by Builder Magazine and was the recipient of 11 Regal Awards by the Homebuilders Association of Delaware in 2006.

ABC-TV Extreme Makeover: Home Edition is on a quest to build a house in all 50 States. Each family will return from an all expenses paid trip to Disney World to find a brand new home, custom built to meet their special needs. The Extreme Makeover team selected the Latif and Chatman families of Delaware for their most recent home-building project because of their unique and inspiring circumstances.

Ju-Juanna Latif's life story is one of inspiration, a reminder to all of us of what can be accomplished if one perseveres. Ms. Latif became a single mother at the age of 16 and dropped out of high school. In spite of the obstacles, Ms. Latif earned a GED and set her sights on going to college. Unfortunately, life once again challenged Ms. Latif and she found herself living in a homeless shelter with her baby. While living at the shelter, Ms. Latif worked proactively to achieve her goals by taking parenting classes, undergoing job training, and enrolling in college once again.

Upon completion of a work study program, Ms. Latif was able to move out of the shelter into low-income housing. Ms. Latif bought her grandmother's home and, in doing so, also met a wonderful neighbor, Rose Chatman.

Ms. Latif is a proud mother of four children, ages: 19, 13, 12, and 9. James, Ms. Latif's youngest child, has been diagnosed with cerebral palsy and is wheelchair-bound. Ms. Chatman, better known as "Grandma Rose" takes care of James during the day while Ms. Latif goes to work as a welfare fraud analyst.

"Grandma Rose" not only cares for young James, but is also an active member of her church by making the flower arrangements and providing transportation to church members.

With the help of Anderson Homes and ABC-TV Extreme Makeover: Home Edition, the new home will accommodate the special needs of Ms. Latif's son, James, and will make life easier for the entire family, including "Grandma Rose."

Thank you to Steve Anderson, the employees of Anderson Homes, ABC, and all the volunteers who made the dream of a brand new home a reality for these deserving families.

HONORING CECIL SCAIFE

**HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 12, 2008*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the accomplishments of Cecil Scaife and other key individuals who helped transform Nashville, Tennessee, into Music City, USA. Tonight at the historic Ryman Auditorium, Belmont University will present Nashville Celebrates Elvis! to highlight Elvis Presley's important contributions to the recording industry in Nashville. The event will also honor the contributions of Cecil Scaife and benefit the Cecil Scaife Music Business Scholarship Fund. The work done by Cecil, Bob Mulloy, and other industry leaders to found and nurture what would become the Mike Curb College of Entertainment and Music Business at Belmont University built upon the success of Elvis and other early pioneers to cement the place of Nashville in the entertainment landscape of our country.

Beginning in radio in the 1950s and then moving into the recording business, Cecil Scaife eventually became the first promotions manager for the legendary producer Sam Phillips at Sun Records in Memphis. Cecil would play a key role in the early careers of not just Elvis, but also Charlie Rich, Jerry Lee Lewis, Carl Perkins and Johnny Cash. He also worked in the first three-track recording studio in Nashville and the RCA Victor Studio B where Elvis recorded some of his greatest hits.

Not content with enjoying his personal success, Cecil Scaife joined with others in 1971 to lay the groundwork for the music business program at Belmont University. He taught there, established a scholarship to honor his wife, Sherytha, and made sure all of his children were educated there. His work helped ensure that the program would become a model for other music schools around the country. This program ensured that Nashville would never run short on talented, well-prepared, home-grown music business professionals ready to lead Nashville's music industry into the future.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Cecil Scaife, Belmont University, and all those who have worked so hard to make sure Nashville, Tennessee, will always be one of the musical and cultural treasures of our country.

IN RECOGNITION OF JAMES F. RODES, JR.

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 12, 2008*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor CDR James F. Rodes, Jr., for his exceptional service in the Cleveland police force and the United States Navy Reserve.

James attended Cuyahoga Community College while serving as a patrol officer and detective in the fourth district, graduating in 1986 with a degree in law enforcement and criminal justice. He worked his way through the ranks, starting as a patrol officer and team leader of the Dive Search and Recovery Team, and continuing his career as a detective in the Fugitive Unit, Accident Investigation Unit, Bureau of Special Investigations, and Homicide Unit. He retired on November 1, 2007, after 26 years of service.

James's distinguished career is also defined by his success in the Navy Reserve. He entered active duty on October 12, 1971, and was initiated Gunner's Mate Chief Petty Officer in 1985. He was a salvage diving officer in Cleveland, a company commander in Bosnia and Herzegovina, a commander in Japan and Akron, Ohio, and also served in Iraq from September 2006 to February 2007.

Commander Rodes spent his childhood in the Cleveland area and now resides in Brooklyn, Ohio, with his wife Diane. He is the proud father of two daughters, Lieutenant Stacy R. Meyers and Melissa A. Hazek.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Commander James F. Rodes, Jr., a man whose exemplary service in both the United States Navy and the Cleveland Police Department will serve as an inspiration for generations to come.

HONORING STATE SENATOR  
ADELINE GEO-KARIS

**HON. MELISSA L. BEAN**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 12, 2008*

Ms. BEAN. Madam Speaker, upon the occasion of her passing, I rise today to celebrate the life and achievements of Illinois State Senator Adeline Geo-Karis, a true political pioneer who dedicated her life to serving the people of Illinois.

She was a woman in leadership when there weren't any others. She broke through all the barriers, as the only woman in her graduating class at DePaul University Law School, as a lieutenant commander in the U.S. Naval Reserve, as the State's first female assistant State's attorney, and the first woman elected to the Illinois General Assembly from Lake County.

Through more than three decades of service in the Illinois General Assembly, Senator Geo-Karis spearheaded successful efforts to cut crime and promote alternative energy use. She was a tireless advocate for senior citizens and a longtime champion of the disabled. She brought constituent service to new heights and set the bar for other elected officials in the State of Illinois.

She served with distinction as the mayor of Zion and as an immigrant from Greece, she was an inspiring example of the American Dream.

Madam Speaker, Senator Geo-Karis has served her district, State, and country with exemplary dedication and commitment. Her 34 years of outstanding public service ensure that her legacy will be remembered.

HONORING WARWICK TOWNSHIP  
ON ITS 275TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 12, 2008*

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 275th anniversary of Warwick Township, Pennsylvania. Warwick has a long and notable history, serving as the location for several crucial events in the birth of our Nation.

Warwick Township was formed by petition on February 13, 1733. Located in central Bucks County, the township served as an important fixture in colonial life in the 18th century. York Road, one of the major roads running throughout the township, served as the major connection between New York and Philadelphia. During the American Revolution, York Road was used as a passage for the American Army during northern campaigns.

Warwick Township was also home to General Washington's headquarters. The township welcomed Marquis de Lafayette and Count Pulaski to join the American Army, where they later became critical to the American victory over the British. The nearby Neshaminy Church was transformed into both a hospital and a location for court-martials throughout the American Revolution.

Today, Warwick Township continues its historic tradition of hospitality and community. The township offers its residents and visitors a variety of public parks, sports fields, pavilions, playgrounds and ponds. Community Park proves the township's residents with a children's summer day camp program, as well as public Sunday evening concerts throughout July and August. Warwick Township also features a public golf course, the Neshaminy Valley Golf Club.

Warwick Township serves both as an outstanding reminder of our Nation's history, as well as an exceptional example of a modern American town. Madam Speaker, I am proud to represent Warwick Township and grateful for the opportunity to recognize their momentous 275th anniversary.

IN CELEBRATION OF SHEILA  
MURPHY CRAWFORD

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 12, 2008*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Sheila Murphy Crawford. Thirty years ago, Sheila Murphy Crawford founded the Murphy Irish Arts center, which she established as a non-profit to support Irish cultural activities. She began in

1978 with 35 students. Under her guidance as director of the center, she currently has more than 250 students, ranging in age from 5 to 30.

In 2006, Crawford's spectacular choreography took third place at the 2006 World Championships of Irish Dancing in Belfast. Her dancers have earned very high rankings in many other national and international competitions. Among many of her other honors, she earned the highly desirable position of adjudicator of the world governing organization for Irish Dance, An coimistun le Rinici Gaeltica.

As a teenager, Crawford maintained the Irish Cultural Garden in Rockefeller Park. She later went on to become the director of the organization that oversees the verdant spot in 1995. For the past 8 years, she has also served as vice president of the Cultural Garden Federation of Cleveland. Currently, Crawford is heading a project to refurbish the Irish Garden.

Crawford's outstanding commitment to sharing Ireland's rich cultural traditions and values goes far beyond Irish dancing. She has been a five time president of a religious and cultural organization that raises funds for charity, the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians. In 1993, she was named Hibernian of the Year.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing Sheila Murphy Crawford's significant contributions to preserving and sharing Irish culture with the community.

RECOGNIZING MRS. IMOGENE  
COTTER

**HON. DENNIS R. REHBERG**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 12, 2008*

Mr. REHBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the oldest registered Republican residing in Phillips County, Montana, Mrs. Imogene Cotter. On February 10, Mrs. Cotter celebrated her 100th birthday. Arriving in Montana on an immigrant train from Missouri when she was a young child, Imogene homesteaded with her family and her husband William until the ranch sold in 1970. Whether it was serving as an election clerk for Phillips County for over 30 years, working as a State officer for several different years in the Cattle Women's organization "Cow Belles", or being heavily involved in her husband's career as a county commissioner and school board president, Imogene's contributions to the Republican Party, Phillips County, and the State of Montana are endless.

Reaching this significant milestone is something that should not go unnoticed or unappreciated. Please accept my wishes for a very happy birthday—and my sincere congratulations for the good life you are living.

It is the compassion, dedication, courage, and commitment of people such as you that is truly the Spirit of America. Your experiences of the past 100 years qualify you to educate and pass your wisdom on to those of younger generations. I hope you will tell your stories—and I hope they will listen.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. TAMMY BALDWIN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 12, 2008*

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I regret that due to inclement winter weather, I missed recorded votes on February 6, 2008, and February 7, 2008.

Had I been present on those days, I would have voted in support of H. Res. 867, H. Res. 942, H. Res. 943, H. Res. 956, H. Con. Res. 283, and H.R. 4848.

IN CELEBRATION OF REGINA  
BRETT

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 12, 2008*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Regina Brett. Regina Brett reaches over half a million readers a week as a thrice-weekly metro columnist for the Cleveland Plain Dealer, which she joined in 2000 after 7 years as a reporter and columnist for the Akron Beacon Journal. Brett also hosts a weekly radio program on Cleveland's National Public Radio Station, WCPN, 90.3 FM. With the capacity to reach out to so many people through her column and radio show, she has been able to highlight issues and generate debate concerning topics that are of great importance to the Greater Cleveland community.

Regina Brett earned her B.A. from Kent State University and her M.A. from John Carroll University. She later went on to serve as president of the National Society of Newspaper Columnists. Among many of her honors and awards, in 1999, she was the recipient of the yearly awarded Batten Medal; established in memory of the late CEO and chairman of the Knight Ridder newspaper chain, which recognizes one journalist nationwide whose writing displays "compassion, fairness, courage, and a deep concern for the underdog."

Through her body of work, she has continued, fearlessly and relentlessly, to illuminate the challenges, victories, people and communities that make up and affect the Greater Cleveland area.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing Regina Brett's outstanding contributions to journalism and to the Greater Cleveland Community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. KEITH ELLISON**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 12, 2008*

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, on January 22, 2008, I failed to vote on rollcall Nos. 19 and 20 because my flight was unexpectedly delayed. Had I voted, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 19 and "aye" on rollcall No. 20.

Madam Speaker, on December 13, 2007, I inadvertently failed to vote on rollcall No. 1156. Had I voted, I would have voted "aye."